

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please insert the following paragraph on page 15, after line 17:

--The MEA 6 has, on the periphery thereof, an oxidant gas inlet-side manifold aperture 1a, an oxidant gas outlet-side manifold aperture 1b, a fuel gas inlet-side manifold aperture 2a, a fuel gas outlet-side manifold aperture 2b, a cooling water inlet-side manifold aperture 3a and a cooling water outlet-side manifold aperture 3b.--